

# NOTES ON THE ZOOLOGY OF THE SOLOMON ISLANDS.

BY E. P. RAMSAY, F.L.S., &c., &c.

## PART I.—AVES.

Some months ago Mr. James Cockerell accompanied Captain Brodie of the Schooner "Ariel" to the Solomon Islands, where through the liberality of Capt. Brodie, he was enabled to make a very fine collection of the fauna of those Islands, and, although only visiting three "Stations," collected about 50 mammals and about 350 skins of birds. Having had an opportunity of examining the whole of these collections, I have made a few notes on the subject which may be of interest to ornithologists.

One of the principle features in the collection is the large number of that beautiful and hitherto rare parrot, *Lorius cardinalis*, of which there is a very large series. The rare *Halcyon leucopygia*, one sex only of which was previously known, is also well represented; I was glad to find also a beautiful hawk, I think identical with *Astur soloensis* from the Celebes, and among the fly-catchers there are at least four new species, one closely allied to a Celebes form. Amongst the pigeons is a beautiful *Ptilopus*, *P. viridis*, var. or what may perhaps hereafter prove to be a distinct species; also the beautiful *Carpophaga rufigula* which is closely allied to *C. rubricera* from the Duke of York Islands, and New Ireland. The collection also contains fine specimens, adults and young, of the *Megapodius* from the Island of Savo, *M. brenchleyi* of G. R. Gray. A fine species of *Halcyon*, probably *H. chloris*, a great number of the beautiful *Dicaeum erythrothorax*, besides many other birds, made known to us by the early voyagers. The following is a list of the species with remarks respecting them.

1.—*ASTUR SOLOENSIS*, *Lath.*

*Sharpe, Cat. Birds I., pp. 114-115.*

This bird agrees well with the description of *Astur soloensis* in Sharpe's Catalogue, Birds I., p. 114-5, although in the present specimens there are no bars on the tail or wings. The whole of the upper surface is of a uniform light bluish ashy-grey, almost white on the forehead, ear-coverts and throat; dark ashy-grey on the wing, quills and tail, the under surface of the tail is almost of the same tint as the upper, the thighs have a wash of ruddy vinous; the chest, breast, and abdomen of a rich deep vinous red; bill and claws black, cere, gape, legs and feet yellow.

Total length 13 in.; wing 7·3 in.; tail 6·4 in.; tarsus 2·2 in.; mid. toe (*s. u.*) 1·3 in.; culmen 1·1. I think this species belongs more to the subgenus *Leucospiza* than to *Astur* proper.

*Sex* ♂, ?.

*Loc.* Cape Pitt, Solomon Islands.

2.—*BAZA REINWARDTI*, *Mull. & Schleg.*

*Sharpe, Cat. B. I., pp. 358-9; Ramsay, P. L. S., N.S.W. Vol. III., pt. 3. p. 246.*

One specimen exactly agreeing with the Port Moresby birds from New Guinea.

*Loc.* Cape Pitt.

3.—*NINOX PUNCTULATA*, *Q. et Gaim.*

*Sharpe, Cat. B. II., p. 182-3. Noctua punctulata, Q. et Gaim. Voy. de l'Astrol. Zool. pl. I. fig. 1.*

This bird agrees better with Mr. Sharpe's description of *N. punctulata*, (Cat. B. II. p. 183.) than with the plate in the "Voyage de l'Astrolabe," and on the whole may with more certainty be referred to that species than to any other.

Two specimens were all that were obtained and do not differ in plumage, the under wing-coverts are white with the greater series largely tipped with brown.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.

4.—*HALCYON SANCTUS*, *Vig. & Horsf.*

*Sharpe, Monog. Alced. pl.* 91.

Several specimens; the bills seem in comparison, more slender than in the New South Wales examples.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar; Savo; Cape Pitt.

5.—*HALCYON CHLORIS*, *var.*

*Sharpe, Monog. Alced. pl.* 87.

One specimen, fully adult, which with some doubt I refer to this species; the throat and centre of the abdomen are white, but the rest of the under surface is of a rich buff, richer and deeper on the under wing-coverts and axillaries; the ear-coverts and line round the head jet black, the broad collar tinged with buff and margined behind with black, which color also pervades the shoulders and anterior part of the interscapular region.

*Loc.* Cape Pitt.

6.—*HALCYON LEUCOPYGIA*, *Verr.*

*Cyanalcyon leucopygius*, *Verr.*; *Sharpe, Monog. Alced. pl.* 74, (♂).

A fine series of this beautiful species was collected by Cockerell at Gaudalcanar; one sex only being previously known, I may mention that those marked as females differ only, in having the blue of the back extended to the upper tail-coverts, in fact the white of the rump is replaced by blue; both sexes have the white collar round the neck.

		♂	♂	♀	♀	♂	♀	♀
Total length	..	7.5;	7.2;	7.8;	7.45;	8.;	7.5;	7.4
Wing	..	3.5;	3.25;	3.65;	3.45;	3.55;	3.45;	3.5
Tail	..	2.4;	2.2;	2.4;	2.35;	2.3;	2.45;	2.4

	♂	♂	♀	♀	♂	♀	♀
Tarsus	0.5;	0.52;	0.5;	0.5;	0.5;	0.5;	0.5
Bill from forehead	1.8;	1.7;	1.8;	1.7;	1.65;	1.7;	1.6
Bill from nostrils..	1.45;	1.3;	1.4;	1.35;	1.21;	1.35;	1.3

7.—*CACATUA DUCORPSII*, *Homb. et Jacq.*

This is evidently a common species found all over the group.

*Loc.* Savo; Gaudalcanar, &c.

8.—*LORIUS CHLOROCERCUS*, *Gould.*

One specimen from Isld. of Savo.

9.—*LORIUS CARDINALIS*, *Homb. et Jacq.*

A large number of this beautiful species was obtained. I find the females slightly smaller than the males, but equally bright in color. The base of the bill is horn-color, the tip red; the lower mandible coral red, the skin round its base yellow, cere and skin round the chin, dark horn-brown in *dry* and *spirit* specimens; the margin of the shoulders below, in some is tinged with blue.

	♂.	♂.	♂.	♀.	♀.	♂.	♂.
Total length..	12.2	11.6	11.6	11	11	12	13.3
Wing ..	7.2	7.3	7.2	6.6	6.7	7.3	7.2
Tail ..	6.1	6.05	6.2	5.5	6.1	6.1	6.3
Tarsus ..	0.75	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.75	0.8	0.9
Culmen ..	1	1.08	1.1	1.	1.05	1.05	1.15
Length of lower mandible							
from chin ..	0.6	0.61	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.65	0.75

The last is from a spirit specimen—the sex of which I have ascertained by dissection, the others from dry skins.

*Loc.* Savo.

10.—*GEOFROYIUS HETEROCLITUS*, *Homb. et Jacq.*

I find this bird identical with a young bird from Duke of York Island, a careful examination will easily distinguish them from

the Port Moresby and the Aru Island species, in which the head above is brown in the young birds.

*Loc.* Savo.

### 11.—ELECTUS POLYCHLORUS, *Scop.*

The specimens from Savo are smaller than those from Port Moresby, and agree better in size with the birds from the Duke of York Islands.

The following measurements of Birds from various localities may be of interest:—

	Total length	Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Culmen.
<i>Port Moresby.</i>					
♂	13,	10·2,	5·2,	1 .	1·9 INCHES.
♀	13·3	10·1	5·15	0·9	2·1 „
<i>Duke of York Group and New Ireland.</i>					
♂	12·4,	10,	4·5,	0·85,	2 „
♀	11·85	9·5	4·4	0·8	1·7 „
<i>Savo, Solomon Islands.</i>					
♂	11·8	9,	4·4	0·8	1·8 „
♀	11·9	9·3,	4·5	0·8	1·7 „
<i>Katow, New Guinea, from Voy. of the "Chevert."</i>					
♂	14·7,	10·3,	5·5,	0·95,	2·25 „
♀	14,	9·7,	5,	0·9,	2 „
* ♀	10	8·2	3·9	0·75	1·5 „

\*A small specimen from South Coast of N. Guinea, belonging perhaps to a different species ; no locality given.

### 12.—CENTROPUS MILO, *Gould.*

Several fine specimens, adults, males and females, and two young ones.

The young have the lower portion of the body from the shoulders, including the wings to the tail, light rufous with blackish green cross-bars, on the tail these bars are oblique and about 16 in number.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.



13.—EUDYNAMYS TAITIENSIS, *Sparm.*

Three specimens only.

*Loc.* Savo.

14.—? CHALCITES PLAGOSUS. *Temm.*

Two specimens only, smaller than the Australian birds of this species (?), and with a much larger and stronger bill, perhaps identical with *C. minutulus*. (*Gould.*)

*Loc.* Savo.

15.—PACHYCEPHALA ORIOLOIDES, *Peale.*

Several specimens adults and young, both males and females of this fine species.

*Adult female.*—The whole of the head, the neck, chest, mantle, wings and tail above, cinnamon brown, becoming almost white on the throat, and deepest in tint on the ear-coverts, head, and wings; the lower part of the back and rump olive brown, the upper tail-coverts cinnamon; tail above slightly tinged with olive on the inner webs, the concealed portion of the wing feathers blackish brown, below dull brown, the margin of the inner webs pale cinnamon color, margin of the shoulders yellow, under wing-coverts pale cinnamon; breast and abdomen whitish, sides and flanks washed with light cinnamon brown, crissum and feathers at the knee joints yellow, under-tail coverts yellow, becoming cinnamon laterally, and at their tips; bill light horn brown, legs greyish. Total length, 6·8 in.; wing, 3·75; tail, 3 in.; tarsus, 0·95; bill, about 0·9 (tip broken); from gape to tip of lower mandible, 1 in.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.

16.—GRACULA (*Eulabes*) KREFFTII, *Sclater.*

The upper tail-coverts of this species are normally white, but I find a few feathers on the sides washed with yellow, like those on the abdomen; some of the under tail-coverts are margined also with the same tint; common throughout the group.

17.—EURYSTOMUS CRASSIROSTRIS, *Sclater*.

In no way different from the Port Moresby examples. Several specimens from Cape Pitt, &c.

*Loc.* Savo ; Gaudalcanar, &c.

18.—EDOLIISOMA MARESCOTII, *G.R. Gray*.

Adult males and females ; and young in change of plumage. The young males resemble the females.

19.—GRAUCALUS HYPOLEUCUS, *Gould*.

This species agrees well with the description in the "*Voyage au Pôlé Sud*," of *G. desgrazei*, it is however smaller, and undoubtedly identical with Mr. Gould's *G. hypoleucus*. A young bird, has the scapulars brown with white margins.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.

20.—GRAUCALUS DUSSUMIERI, *Less*.

*Male and female* from Gaudalcanar.

21.—GRAUCALUS FUSILLUS, *sp. nov.\**

This species comes near to *G. dussumieri* of Homb. et Jacq., but differs in having the rump of the same uniform tint as the back and upper tail coverts, it is also smaller.

*Adult*.—The whole of the upper and under surface is of a bluish lead grey, the tail becoming black above, washed with bluish grey on the outer webs of the centre two feathers, and dull blackish with an ashy grey tinge below ; wings black, the third and remaining quills margined narrowly on the primaries, broadly on the secondaries, with the same tint as the back, which increasing on the tertiaries occupies the whole of their outer web, the under surface of the wing is ashy grey, becoming whitish ash color towards the base of the inner webs ; the under

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\* This may hereafter prove to be a smaller race of *G. muelleri*, (Salvd.), but at present I prefer to keep them distinct.

wing-coverts and axillaries with narrow transverse bars of black and white. The lores from the nostrils to the eye are black, which color is slightly produced anteriorly beneath that organ; bill and legs black.

A second specimen said to be the female of this species, differs only in the loreal region being duller, or of a blackish lead color, and the remainder of the under surface (except the legs) from opposite the shoulders and including the under tail-coverts transversely barred with alternate black and white lines; bill and legs black.

			MALE.	FEMALE.
Total length	..	..	8·5 in.	8·5 in.
Wing	..	..	4·9	4·9
Tail	..	..	4·2	4·3
Tarsus	..	..	0·8	0·8
Bill from forehead	..	..	0·76	0·8
Bill from gape	..	..	0·9	0·95
Bill from nostril	..	..	0·45	0·5

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.

## 22.—CARPOPHAGA RUTIGULA, *Salvad.*

? *C. rubracera*, *G.R. Gray.*

Three specimens only of this fine species were obtained. The Museum has recently received from the Solomon Islands through the kindness of Lieutenant Musters of H.M.S. "Conflict," a fine specimen of this species in spirits from which I find the peculiar formation of the cere, which has not been noticed before, being quite distorted in the dry skins, closely resembles that of *C. aurora*, Peale, figured by Cassin, Zool. U. S. Expl. Exped. p. 258, (1858).

*Loc.* Savo.

## 23.—CARPOPHAGA (? PRISTINARIA, *Bp.*)

This appears to be the commonest large fruit Pigeon on the Island; several specimens obtained. I have not been enabled to



determine the species definitely; and it may probably prove to be undescribed, however it comes near *C. vanwickii* of Cassin and *C. perspicillata*, Temm. There are so many of this genus, and most of them so wretchedly and meagrely described that it is impossible to determine many of them, without reference to the type specimen itself.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar, &c.

#### 24.—MACROPYGIA SP.,

I have not been able to determine this species but it is not unlike a species common at the New Hebrides.

*Loc.* Lango, Gaudalcanar.

#### 25.—CHALCOPHAPS CHRYSOCHLORA, Gould.

One young specimen evidently of this species.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.

#### 26.—PTILOPUS VIRIDIS, var.

? (*P. viridis*, (Linn.) Elliot, *P.Z.S.* 1878. p. 560.)

On the whole, this bird agrees very well with *Ptilopus viridis*, Linn., (Elliot, *P.Z.S.* 1878, p. 560.) but it certainly has not the "*tertials green edged with grey*"—they are green with a clear very light ashy, almost white, spot at the tip, and in this respect agree with Mr. Elliot's description of these feathers in *P. eugeniæ* Gould. There is a large light ashy grey *spot* on the shoulders, but no *band*; the undertail coverts are yellow, with a broad dark green stripe on their inner webs, none of the secondaries have any grey at their tips as described in *P. geelvinkianus*, Schleg.,

Having carefully compared my birds with Mr. Elliot's descriptions of *P. viridis*, *P. geelvinkianus*, and *P. eugeniæ*, I believe that although closely allied to these species, the present will prove distinct from all of them, particularly in having a violet tinge or line bordering the sides and lower part of the rich deep purple-red

of the chest. By carefully comparing my description, the differences will be apparent.

*Adult male*.—The forehead as far as the eyes, the lores and the chin dull ashy grey, back of the head and neck, ear-coverts, sides of the neck, and all the upper surface dull bronzy green, with a yellowish tinge, the quills below and their concealed portions above, ashy grey; the under wing-coverts green; the secondaries with a narrow margin of yellow at the tip on the outer webs; the tertials with a large roundish subterminal spot of light grey (almost white); on the shoulder a roundish patch of light ashy grey. Tail above like the back, the concealed portions of the feathers blackish at the base, a subterminal spot of ashy grey near the tip, below blackish ashy brown, an ashy white band across the tips; the lower part of the throat and the chest a large pyriform patch of deep reddish-purple, which towards its outer margin is shaded off to violet, and has a narrow violet border; the breast and remainder of the under surface yellowish green; crissum and under tail coverts yellow, the latter with a broad stripe of green on the inner web; legs ashy-grey, tinged with green above, washed with yellow on the inner side; bill, yellow; tarsi and feet, red. Total length, 7·5 to 8 in.; wing, 4·5 to 5 in.; bill from forehead, 0·7 in., from gape, 0·8; tarsus, 0·8 in.; tail, 2·5 in.\*

*Loc.* Lango; Gaudalcanar.

## 27.—PTILOPUS SUPERBUS, *Temm.*

The only specimen is a young male having just attained its full livery. The rich orange red of the nape is separated from the rosy purple of the crown by the green from the ear-coverts and sides of the head; the chest is of a rich ashy grey, and the band across the breast deep violet—almost black, there is no

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\* Can this be the adult of *P. solomonensis*, G. R. Gray,? I think not; see Gray's description of the upper surface, and wings &c.

light purple or lilac tint on the chest; the shoulders and the spots on the wing-coverts, scapulars, and tertiaries, deep violet, almost black; the greater wing-coverts and secondaries margined with yellow on the outer webs; *all* the tail feathers with an apical whitish band, under tail-coverts pure white, with a broad line of green on the *inner web*.

*Loc.* Lango, Gandalkanar.

## 28.—MEGAPODIUS BRENCHEYI, *G. R. Gray.*

This species was first indicated by Dr. Sclater from Eggs obtained at Savo by Mr. Brazier, but no description was given of the bird either adult or young. Dr. G. R. Gray obtained the eggs and young birds from the author of the "Cruise of the Curagoa," Mr. Brenchley, after whom he named this species. It is probably the same species as alluded to by Dr. Sclater, but the practice of naming birds from eggshells, or from a recollection of having once seen a specimen in the field or otherwise without having ever handled a single individual has been carried rather too far of late, e. g., *Merula bicolor*, and others.

### *Megapodius brenchleyi.*

Adults from Savo—

Total length in Inches..	13,	12,	13,
Wing .. ..	9	9·1	8·8
Tail .. ..	3·2	32	3·3
Tarsus .. ..	2·8	2·5	2·8
Bill from forehead ..	1·1	1	1
„ nostril ..	0·55	0·5	0·55
„ gape ..	1·15	1·1	1·15

*Adult male.*—The forehead, space round the eyes, and scantily feathered portions of the neck, reddish carmine. The neck, mantle, chest, breast, dark slaty brown; head, flanks, abdomen, and under tail-, and wing-coverts, and under sides of the tail and wing

feathers dull dark brown; the wings and tail above, and the back, rump, and upper tail-, and wing-coverts dark olive brown; bill light-horn colour, yellowish at the tip; legs and feet purplish blackish-brown.

*Loc.* Savo.

29. STURNOIDES FULVIPENNIS, *Homb. et Jacq.*

Numerous specimens. This is evidently a common species.

*Loc.* Lango, Gaudalcanar.

30.—CALORNIS CANTOROIDES, *Lesson.*

*C. cantoroides* (*Less.*), *Sharpe Journ. Linn. Soc. Zool. XIII.*, p. 318.

*Adult male.*—The whole of the upper and under surface black, with metallic greenish reflections uniform throughout; under surface of the wings and tail black; bill, black; the sides much compressed, the culmen sharp and keel-like, rather straight to the nostrils, and from thence to the tip much arched, on the whole the bill is strong and thick; the tail short, rather even. Total length to tip of bill, 6·5; wing, 3·8; tail, 2·7; tarsus, 0·9. The feathers of the throat, ear-coverts, back of the head and neck are pointed; there are no purple or violet reflections anywhere to be seen.

This is a small species allied to *C. cantor*, and perhaps identical with *C. cantoroides* of Lesson. It is evidently the same as those received from New Guinea, which I have referred to this species.

The female is of a dull brown above, glossed with a greenish tinge, except on the quills, and all but the two centre tail feathers, which are blackish with the same greenish gloss; all the under surface from the chin, dull white; feathers of the throat pointed, and with a narrow blackish shaft-line, on the chest these shaft-lines become triangular, and lanceolate on the

flanks and under tail-coverts; centre of the abdomen white; under surface of wings and tail brown.

*Loc.* Savo.

31.—*CALORNIS METALLICA*, *Temm.*

I have before me a very large series of long-tailed glossy starlings, in fact I have examined several hundred specimens from various parts of Australia, from Port Denison to Cape York, from Torres Straits, Port Moresby, and other parts of the south coast of New Guinea, Duke of York Islands, New Ireland, and the Louisiades: all these I have carefully compared with those from the Solomon Islands, and although there are slight individual differences in the extent of the purple reflections among those from each separate locality, yet I find specimens from *all these* localities in which there is not the slightest difference in plumage, and very little in size. An average-sized skin from Solomon Islands measures:—total length from tip of bill to tip of tail, 8·7 in.; wing, 4·4; tail, 4·4; tarsus, 0·9 in.; hind-toe, (s.u.,) 0·45; mid-toe, (s.u.,) 0·8; bill from forehead, 0·9; from angle of the mouth, 1 in; from nostril, 0·5; culmen from forehead, 0·94 in. An average-sized Australian bird measures:—total length, 8 in.; wing, 4·3; tail, 3·9; tarsus, 0·95; hind-toe, (s.u.,) 0·5; middle toe, (s.u.,) 0·82.

Those from the Duke of York group, and New Ireland, and those from Port Moresby, and Torres Straits, are about the same in size, all differing *inter se*. slightly in the extent of the purple reflections,

32.—*DICÆUM ERYTHROTHORAX*, *Homb. et Jacq.*

A large number of this beautiful species was obtained. It is one of the most common species. The female is of a blackish-brown with a rich metallic greenish gloss; the under surface is slaty-brown, duller on the sides of the chest; the throat, chest, abdomen, and under tail-coverts nearly white, the flanks olive-



yellow. In some very old males the throat has a few crimson feathers in the centre of the white patch, in some, the white of the throat is separated from the crimson of the chest by a line of brown, but in others the crimson and white join.

The young (sex ?) resemble the females, but on leaving the nest have only a trace of white on the throat, which is extended down the centre to the abdomen; the back wings and tail are glossed with metallic reflections, but there is little or no gloss on the head, and no buff on the flanks; the base of both mandibles flesh red.

			♂	♂	♂	♀	♀
Total length ..	..	..	3.4	3.2	3.15	3.4	3.3
Wing ..	..	..	1.95	2	2	1.85	1.82
Tail ..	..	..	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.	1.05
Tarsus ..	..	..	0.51	0.5	0.51	0.5	0.5
Bill from forehead ..	..	..	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Bill from gape ..	..	..	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Bill from nostril ..	..	..	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.32	0.3

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.

### 33.—MYIAGRA FERRO-CYANEA, *sp. nov.*

This species appears to be almost identical with *M. menadensis*, Quoy. et Gaim., from the Celebes. The whole of the wings, however, are uniform in color, and the tibial feathers white.

*Adult male.*—The whole of the head, neck, upper part of the chest, the back, rump, and upper tail and wing-coverts, black, with steel-blue reflections; wings and tail above, black; under wing-coverts, and the basal portion of the secondaries and all except the first two primaries, white on the inner webs, remainder of the feathers blackish brown; tail below black, under tail coverts, and a narrow line at the base on the inner web of the outer two feathers pure white; the lower part of the chest, the breast, thighs, and remainder of the under surface snow white. The feathers on the crown of the head slightly produced, erectile.



Total length, 5 in.; wing, 2·6; tail, 2·5; tarsus, 0·65; bill from forehead, 0·6; from gape, 0·6; from nostril, 0·35; width at angle of the mouth, 0·35 in.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.

It is possible that the next species may prove to be the female of this species, but at present we have no evidence on this point.

34.—*MYIAGRA PALLIDA*, *sp. nov.*

The whole of the head, except the throat, ear-coverts, back of the neck, and mantle, dark bluish ashy grey; back, brown, with a rufous tinge; wings, dark brown; the shoulders, ashy; the primaries, all except the first two, narrowly margined except at the tip, and the secondaries broadly margined with pale rufous; scapulars and upper coverts washed with the same tint, upper tail-coverts and tail, pale rufous, the centre two feathers, and the two on either side on the outer web, washed with brown; under surface and the under tail-coverts light rufous; the inner webs of the secondaries, and basal portions of the inner webs of the primaries, pale rufous buff; under wing-coverts, white; throat, chest, and remainder of the under surface, white; bill, bluish horn color; legs, lead blue. Total length, 5 in.; wing, 2·6; tail, 2·5; tarsus, 0·55; bill from forehead, 0·65; from gape, 0·7; from nostril, 0·35 in.

*Loc.* Lango, Gandalcanar.

35.—*MONARCHA RUFO-CASTANEA*, *sp. nov.*

*Adult male.*—The whole of the head, throat and neck, sides of the chest, and all the upper surface of the body, black, slightly glossy; wings and tail, blackish brown, under surface, dull brown, the inner webs of the quills inclining to buff on their basal margins; the chest, and all the under surface of the body, under wing and under tail-coverts, dark rich rufous; bill, bluish horn color, the margins and tip of lower mandible, whitish. Total length, 5·8; wing, 3·1; tail, 2·65; tarsus, 0·57 in.; bill from forehead, 0·8; from gape, 0·85; from nostril to tip, 0·5.

An immature bird, which is probably the young of this species, has the whole of the upper surface of the body, head, throat, and neck, dull bluish grey; the wings and tail of a brownish tint; a slight tint of rufous on the outer webs of the quills of the wings; chest slightly tinged with rufous; breast and abdomen, flanks and under tail-coverts, rich deep rufous; bill, black; legs and feet, bluish grey. On the whole, this species resembles *M. inornata* of Lesson, but is much deeper in tint, and has the upper part of the chest washed with deep rufous; size same as the preceding adult.

*Loc.* Lango, Gaudalcanar.

36.—*MONARCHA BRODIEI*, *sp. nov.*

*Adult male.*—The whole of the head, chin and throat, ear-coverts, and all the upper surface of the body, wings and tail deep shining black; wings below blackish brown, a little lighter on the margins of the inner webs, under margin of the shoulder black, some of the feathers tipped with white, under wing-coverts white; smaller wing-coverts above, and the shoulders black, the greater secondary-coverts white, forming a large white patch on the wing, tail dull black below the outer three rectrices largely tipped with white. From near the angle of the mouth, and below the ear-coverts extending on either side of the throat and neck a broad patch of white, joining the chest, which with the remainder of the under surface and under tail-coverts is white; thighs black tipped with white; the feathers of the throat elongate, spreading over the white on the sides and capable of semi-erection as in *Monarcha loricata*, Wallace; *M. leucotis*, Gould, and *M. verticalis*; the feathers on the forehead short and erect; legs lead color; bill black at the base, culmen and tip, sides bluish-white, margins and tip of lower mandible whitish; bristles black shorter than the bill. Total length 5·6; wing 3 in.; tail 2·85; tarsus 0·74; bill from forehead 0·63; from gape 0·7; from nostril 0·4.

*Adult female and young male.*—The female is slightly larger than the male, all the upper surface dull brown; tail blackish brown, three outer feathers largely tipped with white, the secondary coverts white, washed with light rufous; the sides of the throat and of the neck, the chest, and sides of the breast, light rusty yellow; flanks washed with the same tint; abdomen and under tail-coverts white; the throat with elongate feathers of a light brown tinged with rusty; bill blackish horn color; legs and feet lead-blue.

*Progress towards maturity.*—The brown of the upper surface and wing feathers becomes black; the rusty hue of the secondary coverts, and of the under surface white; in one immature specimen I find the throat feathers of the same rusty yellow hue as the chest and sides.

This fine, distinct species comes near to *Monarcha loricata* of Wallace, and *M. leucotis* of Gould, but is quite distinct from them and also from *M. leucura*, (G. R. Gray).

I have named it after Capt. Brodie of the Schooner "Ariel," by whose instrumentality this fine collection was made.

*Loc.* Lango, Gaudalcanar.

37.—SAULOPROCTA COCKERELLI, *sp. nov.*

*Adult male.*—The whole of the upper surface, the head, and the throat, jet black; the wings and tail, blackish brown; the inner secondaries and scapulars broadly margined and tipped with white, which forms a broad white band down the wing; over the eye a narrow isolated spot of white; the chest and breast, black; the feathers on the sides of the throat adjacent to the ear-coverts, very slightly tipped with a subterminal spot of white, those on the chest conspicuously tipped with a lanceolate oblong subterminal spot of the same color, which increases in size on the breast feathers, and joins the white of the abdomen where the feathers are white with a narrow black margin; centre of

the abdomen, flanks, and under tail-coverts, pure white; the bases of all the feathers black; under wing-coverts, blackish brown tipped with white; under surface of wings and tail, brown; bill and legs, black; rictæ stiff and strong, black not reaching to the tip of the bill. Total length, 6.2 inches; wing, 3.4; tail, 3.5; tarsus, 0.58; bill from forehead, 0.7 in.; from gape, 0.73; from nostril, 0.4. in.

I have named this species after Mr. James Cockerell, a most persevering collector, who has collected largely in Tropical Australia and in the Islands of the Austro-Malayan Region.

*Loc.* Lango, Gaudalcanar.

38.—*SAULOPROCTA TRICOLOR*, Vieill.

Several specimens, this species is nothing more than a large form of *S. motacilloides*, and is identical with *Muscicapa melaleuca*, of Quoy et Gaim.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.

39.—*RHIPIDURA RUBROFRONTATA*, *sp. nov.*

This species comes close to *R. torrida*, Wallace, *P. Z. S.*, 1865 p. 477, but is smaller, has the ear-coverts brown, not black; the black of the chest confined to that region, and not extending over the breast; more rufous on the forehead; and much more white on the tips of the tail feathers.

*Adult.*—All the upper surface brown, warmer brown on the scapularies and upper wing-coverts, shading into rich rufous on the rump and upper tail-coverts, which color also extends slightly on to the basal portion of the outer webs of the rectrices and their shafts, remainder of the tail above and below blackish brown, all the feathers largely tipped with white; forehead to above the eye, and the under tail-coverts rich rufous; spot in front of the eye and ear-coverts blackish-brown, lower eye-lid white; throat and a lateral stripe, extending to just beyond the ear-coverts

white; chest below the white throat, black; the lower portion having white margins to the feathers; sides brown, having a rufous tinge towards and on the flanks; thighs rufous-brown; abdomen, white; wings above rich brown, with a faint tinge of rufous on the outer webs of the secondaries and scapulars; a rufous spot on the under margin of the wing, under coverts white; on the crown of the head, behind the rufous frontal band the feathers have a slightly striated appearance, from their central portions being slightly darker; bill and rictæ, black, the latter not extending to the tip; legs, dark olive brown. Total length, 5·2; wing, 2·6; tail, 3·1; tarsus, 0·7; bill from forehead 0·55, from nostril to tip, 0·3.

*Loc.* Lango, Gaudalcanar.

40.—CINNYRIS FRENATA, *Mull.*

Several specimens of this widely distributed species; I have compared them with specimens from Duke of York Islands, Port Moresby, Cape York, Trinity Bay, and Port Denison, without finding any differences between them.

*Loc.* Gaudalcanar.

41.—CINNYRIS (?) DUBIA, *sp. nov.*

*Adult male.*—All the front of the head, sides of the head, crown, ear-coverts, and throat, black; back of the neck, chest, and all the upper and under surface of the body, olive yellow, of a clearer yellow on the inter-scapular region and back; wings and tail fuscous black; the outer webs of all the quills, except the first two primaries, and the outer two rectrices, margined with olive yellow; under wing-coverts, and the basal portion of the inner webs of the quills, white; axillaries, yellowish; under surface of the wings and tail, blackish brown; under tail-coverts, dark brown, washed with olive yellow. Total length to base of bill, 4 in.; wing, 2·6; tail, 2 in.; tarsus, 0·7 in.; bill from forehead, 0·86; from nostril to tip, 0·57; culmen, 0·9.



A young bird has the ear-coverts brown, and an indication of a yellowish orange patch on the chest, some feathers also on the rump and upper tail coverts have an orange brown tinge.

I am in doubt whether this species may not prove to belong to the Meliphagidæ, coming between the genera *Myzomela* and *Glyciphila*.

*Loc.* Savo.

42.—*BUTOROIDES JAVANICA*, *Horsfield*.

One specimen only.

*Loc.* Savo.

43.—*STERNA GRACILIS*, *Gould*.

One specimen only.

*Loc.* Savo.

44.—*SULA FUSCA*, *Gould*.

One specimen only.

*Loc.* Savo.

45.—*PHÆTON FLAVIROSTRIS*, *Brandt*.

One specimen only.

*Loc.* Savo.

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